

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Vanessa Perez on September 12, 2008.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

- a. Claims 3-5 and 8-10 are cancelled without prejudice to their further prosecution in a continuation application.
- b. In claim 1, line 4, after "hydroxyl groups", add --selected from dihydroxybenzoic acid, dihydroxybenzaldehyde, trihydroxybenzoic acid or trihydroxybenzaldehyde--
- c. In claim 1, line 5, after "salt", add --, wherein the metal salt is an iron salt, -
- (basis for the limitation found in cancelled claim 4)
- d. In claim 6, line 6, after "hydroxyl groups", add --selected from dihydroxybenzoic acid, dihydroxybenzaldehyde, trihydroxybenzoic acid or trihydroxybenzaldehyde--
- e. In claim 6, line 7, after "salt", add --, wherein the metal salt is an iron salt, -
- (basis for the limitation found in cancelled claim 9)

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3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The claims are allowable over the closest prior art of record, Sanders et al. (US 5,212,040) and Pai et al. (US 5,516,338) because the references do not teach dihydroxybenzoic acid, dihydroxybenzaldehyde, trihydroxybenzoic acid or trihydroxybenzaldehyde or carboxylic acids groups, respectively.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to AMINA KHAN whose telephone number is (571)272-5573. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 8:30-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vasu Jagannathan can be reached on (571) 272-1119. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Lorna M Douyon/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1796

/Amina Khan/
Examiner, Art Unit 1796
September 14, 2008